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AUG 06 2007

In re Application of  
Theodore F. Dimitroff  
Application No. 10/517,396  
Filed: November 28, 2004  
Attorney Docket Number: HAMPAUS-0001

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition filed June 15, 2007, to withdraw the holding of abandonment, which is treated under 37 CFR 1.181, in accordance with the reasoning of the decision in Delgar Inc. v. Schuyler, 172 USPQ 513.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

Any request for reconsideration of this decision must be submitted within **TWO (2) MONTHS** from the mail date of this decision. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) are permitted. The reconsideration request should include a cover letter entitled "Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.181," or, as explained in more detail below, "...under 37 CFR 1.137(a)" or (b). This is not a final agency decision.

This application became abandoned on January 13, 2007 after the applicant failed to file a timely response to the non-Final Office Action mailed October 12, 2006. Accordingly, the Notice of Abandonment was mailed May 29, 2007.

Petitioner argues that the non-Final Office Action was not received as it was returned to the USPTO by the United States Postal Service.

A review of the file reveals that the non-Final Office Action was mailed to the address of record on October 12, 2006, but was returned by the US Postal Service on October 23, 2006 as undeliverable. The review further reveals that there does not appear to have been a change of address filed prior to the mailing of the non-Final Office Action and the forwarding order filed with the USPS expired. See MPEP sections 601.03 and 711.02(c).

As petitioner has not presented any evidence that the address of record had been changed with the USPTO at the time the non-Final Office Action was mailed, and in the absence of petitioner showing that they acted responsibly with respect to providing the USPTO with an up to date address, the showing of record is therefore insufficient to warrant withdrawal of the holding of abandonment.

## ALTERNATIVE VENUES

Petitioner may wish to consider filing a renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.137(a)<sup>1</sup> or 37 CFR 1.137(b),<sup>2</sup> which now provides that where the delay in reply was unintentional, a petition may be filed to revive an abandoned application or a lapsed patent pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b).

The filing of a petition under the unintentional standard cannot be intentionally delayed and therefore should be filed promptly. A person seeking revival due to unintentional delay cannot make a statement that the delay was unintentional unless the entire delay, including the delay from the date it was discovered that the application was abandoned until the filing of the petition to revive under 37 CFR 1.137(b), was unintentional. A statement that the delay was unintentional is not appropriate if petitioner intentionally delayed the filing of a petition for revival under 37 CFR 1.137(b).

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail:      Mail Stop Petition

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<sup>1</sup> A grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(a) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the required reply, unless previously filed; In a nonprovisional application abandoned for failure to prosecute, the required reply may be met by the filing of a continuing application. In a nonprovisional utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995, and abandoned for failure to prosecute, the required reply may also be met by the filing of a request for continued examination in compliance with § 1.114. In an application or patent, abandoned or lapsed for failure to pay the issue fee or any portion thereof, the required reply must be the payment of the issue fee or any outstanding balance thereof.
- (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(l);
- (3) a showing to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(a) was unavoidable; and
- (4) any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d)) required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(c).

<sup>2</sup> Effective December 1, 1997, the provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b) now provide that where the delay in reply was unintentional, a petition may be filed to revive an abandoned application or a lapsed patent pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b). A grantable petition filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the required reply, unless previously filed. In a nonprovisional application abandoned for failure to prosecute, the required reply may be met by the filing of a continuing application. In a nonprovisional application filed on or after June 8, 1995, and abandoned for failure to prosecute, the required reply may also be met by the filing of a request for continued examination in compliance with § 1.114. In an application or patent, abandoned or lapsed for failure to pay the issue fee or any portion thereof, the required reply must be the payment of the issue fee or any outstanding balance thereof. In an application abandoned for failure to pay the publication fee, the required reply must include payment of the publication fee.

- (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m);

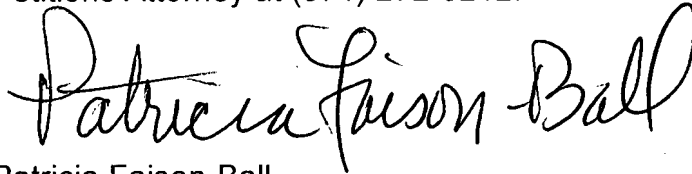
- (3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional; and

- (4) any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d)) required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(c).

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By FAX: (571) 273-8300

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned  
Petitions Attorney at (571) 272-3212.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Patricia Faison-Ball". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "P".

Patricia Faison-Ball  
Senior Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions